

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 2-10 and add new claims 11 - 13 as follows:

1. (original) A dielectric composition comprising a mixture of :

a ceramic composition containing  $Ba_aRE_bTi_cO_3$ , wherein RE represents a rare earth element, with 0.05 a 0.25, 0.525 b 0.70, 0.85 c 1.0, and  $2a + 3b + 4c = 6$ , and free from lead and bismuth,

*B2*  
a glass composition comprising  $SiO_2$ , a bivalent metal oxide chosen from the group consisting of  $MgO$  and  $ZnO$  and at least 10% by weight with respect to the glass composition of a further metal oxide chosen from the group consisting of  $Li_2O$  and  $TiO_2$ , and

a metal oxide which is different from the bivalent metal oxide present in the glass composition.

2. (currently amended) A dielectric composition as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that wherein the metal oxide in the dielectric composition is an oxide of a metal chosen from the group consisting of magnesium, zinc, copper, manganese, cobalt, iron, nickel, erbium, holmium, indium, dysprosium, tungsten and yttrium.

3. (currently amended) A dielectric composition as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that wherein the further metal oxide in the glass composition is  $Li_2O$ .

4. (currently amended) A dielectric composition as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that wherein the glass composition essentially consists of 50-80% by weight of SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5-25% by weight of at least one alkaline earth metal oxide including MgO, and 10-25% by weight of Li<sub>2</sub>O, and in that it wherein said composition is substantially free from boron.

b2  
5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) A dielectric composition as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that wherein the bivalent metal oxide in the glass composition is ZnO, and in that the further metal oxide is Ti<sub>2</sub>O.

7. (currently amended) A dielectric composition as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that wherein the glass composition is present in an amount of 3 to 5% by weight with respect to the ceramic composition.

8. (currently amended) A method of manufacturing a ceramic multilayer element comprising the steps of;

manufacturing a multilayer stack comprising a first ceramic foil, a first electrode comprising Cu, a second ceramic foil, and a second electrode comprising Cu, which ceramic foils are manufactured from a dielectric composition comprising a ceramic composition and a glass composition comprising SiO<sub>2</sub>, which ceramic

composition contains  $\text{Ba}_a\text{RE}_b\text{Ti}_c\text{O}_3$ , wherein RE represents a rare earth element, with  $0.05 \leq a \leq 0.25$ ,  $0.525 \leq b \leq 0.70$ ,  $0.85 \leq c \leq 1.0$ , and  $2a + 3b + 4c = 6$ , the ceramic composition being free from lead and bismuth; and

sintering the multilayer stack,

~~characterized in that wherein~~

*B2  
Cont*  
the glass composition contains a bivalent metal oxide chosen from the group consisting of MgO and ZnO and at least 10% weight with respect to the glass composition of a further metal oxide chosen from a group consisting of Li<sub>2</sub>O and TiO<sub>2</sub>,

the dielectric composition further contains a metal oxide which is different from the bivalent metal oxide present in the glass composition, and

the multilayer stack is sintered at a temperature of between 900 and 1080 °C and in an atmosphere which is non-oxidizing for Cu.

9. (currently amended) An electronic device comprising a first dielectric ceramic layer, a first electrode comprising Cu, and a second electrode, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the first dielectric ceramic layer is a sintered body comprising;

a ceramic composition containing  $\text{Ba}_a\text{RE}_b\text{Ti}_c\text{O}_3$ , wherein RE represents a rare earth element, with  $0.05 \leq a \leq 0.25$ ,  $0.525 \leq b \leq 0.70$ ,  $0.85 \leq c \leq 1.0$ , and  $2a + 3b + 4c = 6$ , and free from lead and bismuth,

a glass composition comprising SiO<sub>2</sub>, a bivalent metal oxide chosen from the group consisting of MgO and ZnO and at least 10% by weight with respect to the

glass composition of a further metal oxide chosen from the group consisting of  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{TiO}_2$ , and

a metal oxide which is different from the bivalent metal oxide present in the glass composition.

*b2  
Cont*

10. (currently amended) An electronic device as claimed in Claim 9, characterized in that wherein the first dielectric ceramic layer is present as a substrate.

11. (new) A dielectric composition comprising a mixture of :

a ceramic composition containing  $\text{Ba}_a\text{RE}_b\text{Ti}_c\text{O}_3$ , wherein RE represents a rare earth element, with 0.05 a 0.25, 0.525 b 0.70, 0.85 c 1.0, and  $2a + 3b + 4c = 6$ , and free from lead and bismuth,

a glass composition, essentially free from boron, comprising  $\text{SiO}_2$ , a first metal oxide, and at least 10% by weight with respect to the glass composition of a second metal oxide chosen from the group consisting of  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{TiO}_2$ , and

a metal oxide which is different from the metal oxide present in the glass composition.

*b3*

12. (new) A dielectric composition as claimed in claim 11 wherein said first metal oxide is an oxide of an alkaline earth metal.

13. (new) A dielectric composition as claimed in claim 12 wherein said alkaline earth

Serial No. 09/923,605

Attorney Ref: PHNL 000419

B3  
Cont

metal oxide is MgO.